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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Duncan et al.

Serial No.: (U.S. National Stage
Application of
PCT/US03/09517)

Filed: March 28, 2003

For: Preparation of Alkylaromatic Hydrocarbons and Alkylaryl Sulfonates

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Before the Examiner:

Unassigned

Group Art Unit No.: Unassigned

Attorney Docket No.: 2002B042A

Customer No.: 23455

Baytown, Texas

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants request entry of the following amendments and consideration of the accompanying remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Support for the Amendment begins on page 9 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

The Specification is amended to add the appropriate claims to priority and incorporate the priority documents by reference. The section related to drawings has been deleted, as it is not necessary for a description or for enablement of the invention.

The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependency.

It is believed that there is no possibility of new matter and entry and consideration is respectfully requested.